[31st October 1935

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—" I think my answer to the previous question covers this too."

*Belated supply of water to Tanjore from the Mettur Reservoir.*

* 330 *Q.*—Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Tanjore District Delta Mirasidars' and Landowners' Association made urgent representations to the Collector and the Superintending Engineer about the precarious condition of crops due to insufficient supply of water;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the Public Works Department authorities announced to open the Mettur Dam on the 1st of June 1935;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that water was let down from the Mettur Dam only on the morning of the 22nd July 1935 and what the delay is due to; and

(*d*) whether it is a fact that on account of failure to let down water in due time the irrigated fields have got dried up resulting in serious loss to landowners?

*A.*—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) No. Water was let down from 12th June 1935. That was four days earlier than the date fixed in rule 2 of the draft rules published with G.O. No. 2671 I., dated 6th December 1933.

(*d*) There has been a reduction in the supply of water for irrigation in the Tanjore delta this season, as the storage in the reservoir at the beginning of the season was very low and slips in the revetment of the low-level channel on three different occasions necessitated a reduction in supply for about seven days. The Chief Engineer for Irrigation who toured in the delta from the 2nd to the 6th August 1935 in that connexion has reported as follows:—

" From the impression I formed during the tour, I am of opinion that in the portion of the delta south of Mayavaram, no appreciable damage has been done to the kuruvai crops, kuruvai seedlings or samba seedlings, except postponement of the kuruvai transplantation by about four to seven days in the lower reaches. At the tail end portions of the delta to the north of Mayavaram and east of railway line, a portion of the kuruvai seedlings would have withered and it was to hasten up the transplantation here that special steps were taken to force down water to the Cauvery lower reaches and the Palavar."

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Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi :—" May I ask whether the information published by the Mirasidars' and Land-owners' Association in their journal that water was let down only on the morning of the 22nd July 1935 is wrong? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter :—" If *The Mirasidar* made that statement, I am afraid it was misinformed."

Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi :—" Does the Hon. Member mean that such a responsible journal as that of the Mirasidars and Land-owners made such a misstatement of facts? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter :—" I understand that water was let down as stated here. Then there was an interval and again water was let down afterwards."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt :—" May I know whether water from the Mettur dam was let down on 12th June 1935 to all the lands which are supposed to be irrigated in the Tanjore district? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter :—" I want notice of that."

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder :—" When letting down or stopping water, may I ask, Sir, whether the requirements of the Tanjore district alone were taken into consideration and not those of the Trichinopoly and Salem districts? "

*Failure of the guaranteed quantity of water-supply to Tanjore.*

* 331 *Q.*—Mr. V. Nadimuthu Pillai : Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he has received representations from the mirasidars of the Tanjore district complaining about the inadequate supply of water and the consequent loss of kuruvai seedlings;

(*b*) whether any enquiry has been made in respect of such complaints;

(*c*) whether the Government intend taking any action thereupon to avoid such recurrence in future;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that the guaranteed supply of water has not been given from the 15th of July to the mirasidars in the Tanjore district; and if so, why; and

(*e*) whether complaints have been received about the same and, if so, what action the Government propose to take thereon?

*A.*—(*a*) *to* (*e*) Yes. A copy of the reply [a] sent to the Tanjore District Delta Mirasidars' and Landowners' Association is placed on the table.

*Irregular and inadequate supply of water to the old deltaic area in Tanjore.*

* 332 *Q.*—Mr. G. Ranganatha Mudaliyar : Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any representations have been received from the mirasidars of Tanjore district, complaining about the inadequate and

[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 322–323 infra.